IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add claims 43 and 44. Please amend claims 29 - 32 and 36 - 41, as follows.

Claims 1 - 28 (cancelled).

29. (currently amended) A method of providing media content to a subscriber utilizing a client computer, the method comprising:

receiving a request, at a local server, <u>from the subscriber utilizing the client computer,</u> for retrieval of media content <s>from the subscriber utilizing the client computer</s>;

transmitting the request for the media content to a remote server, the request including encoded data identifying the subscriber; and

receiving <u>a</u> digitized content <u>file</u> from the remote server at the local server, the digitized content <u>file</u> including a combination of the media content requested by the subscriber and the encoded data identifying the subscriber <u>that was transmitted with the request for the media content</u>.

30. (currently amended) The method of claim 29, further including an agent process on the local server transmitting the digitized content <u>file</u> to the subscriber at the user computing device, the digitized content <u>file</u> including the media content requested by the subscriber and the encoded data identifying the subscriber.

31. (currently amended) The method of claim 29, further including storing the digitized content <u>file</u> on a dedicated partition of a disk drive <u>of the client computer</u>, the digitized content <u>file</u> including the media content requested by the subscriber and the encoded data identifying the subscriber, the dedicated partition of the disk drive being

inaccessible by the subscriber utilizing the client computer.

32. (currently amended) The method of claim 31, further including removing the digitized content file from the dedicated partition of the disk drive once a subscription period has expired.

33. (previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the encoded data identifying the subscriber includes a name of the subscriber.

34. (previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the encoded data identifying the subscriber includes an account number of the subscriber.

35. (previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the media content is in a video format and the encoded data identifying the subscriber includes a watermark that is inserted into video frames of the media content.

36. (currently amended) A machine-readable medium having recorded thereon instructions, such that when said instructions are executed, said instructions cause a local server to:

receive a request from a subscriber utilizing a client computer, at the local server, for retrieval of media content;

transmit the request for the media content to a remote server, the request including encoded data identifying the subscriber; and

receive a digitized content file from the remote server at the local server, the digitized content file including a combination of the media content requested by the subscriber and the encoded data identifying the subscriber that was transmitted with the request for the media content.

37. (currently amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 36, including

instructions, which when executed, cause the local server to transmit the digitized

content file to the subscriber at the client computer, the digitized content file including

the media content requested by the subscriber and the encoded data identifying the

subscriber.

38. (currently amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 36, including

instructions, which when executed, cause the local server to store the digitized content

file on a dedicated partition of a disk drive of the client computer, the digitized content

file including the media content requested by the subscriber and the encoded data

identifying the subscriber and the dedicated partition of the disk drive being inaccessible

by the subscriber utilizing the client computer.

39. (currently amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 38, including

instructions, which when executed, cause the local server to remove the digitized

content file from the dedication partition of the disk drive once a subscription period has

expired.

40. (currently amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 36, wherein

the encoded data identifying the subscriber includes a name of the subscriber.

41. (currently amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 36, wherein

the encoded data identifying the subscriber includes an account number of the

subscriber.

42. (previously presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 36, wherein

the media content is in a video format and the encoded data identifying the subscriber

includes a watermark that is inserted into video frames of the media content.

43. (new) A method of providing media content to a subscriber utilizing a client

computer, the method comprising:

receiving a request from the subscriber, at a remote server, for retrieval of the media content, wherein the request includes data identifying the subscriber;

retrieving the media content, the media content being in a compressed format;

decompressing the media content to create a decompressed media content file; and

inserting a watermark into the decompressed media content file, the watermark including the data identifying the subscriber, to create a combined media content file including the watermark and the decompressed media file.

44. (new) The method of claim 43, further including compressing the combined media content file and transmitting the compressed combined media content file to a local server and then to the client computer.